

Congressman Pearce is working hard to secure America's borders

Better Enforcement of Existing Law

The federal government has failed to adequately protect our border and New Mexicans have paid a steep price. Congressman Pearce is beginning to obtain results in his fight to get the federal government to do its job by enforcing existing laws.

More Border Patrol Agents

179 new border patrol agents were assigned to New Mexico in September 2005 — double the existing number (including 105 to the Deming Corridor, which includes Luna, Grant and Hidalgo counties).

The Department of Homeland Security will hire 1,500 more border patrol agents in 2006—and Congressman Pearce is fighting to obtain priority for rural areas like New Mexico in the assignment of these border patrol agents.

Improved Enforcement Tools

Additional border patrol agents will not help as long as there are insufficient facilities to hold illegal immigrants until they can be deported. With urging from Steve Pearce, the Department of Homeland Security will add 2,000 more detention beds by the end of this year.



Steve Pearce and members of the House Homeland Security Committee listen to ranchers on the border about the border crisis.

Also, on September 14, 2005, the Department of Homeland Security finally extended expedited removal authority to New Mexico—allowing the deportation of “other than Mexican” illegal immigrants to their countries of origin instead of releasing them into our communities with the unlikely hope that they will show up to their deportation hearing.

And to enhance border patrol capabilities, the *America's Shield Initiative*, which is currently underway, will blanket America's entire southern and northern borders with unmanned aerial vehicles, surveillance cameras and sensors that will enable border patrol agents to better target their efforts.

Relieving the Pressure on the Border

The United States continues to attract a huge number of illegal immigrants who are coming here to simply take available jobs and provide their families with better lives. U.S. Border Patrol agents are overwhelmed by the task of intercepting peaceful, hard working men and women who have the potential to make vital contributions to New Mexico's economy and culture. Meanwhile, drug traffickers, human smugglers, violent gangs, and terrorists are exploiting the misplaced priorities of federal immigration policy, developing ever more sophisticated ways to cross the border undetected.



The addition of Border Patrol agents, better technology and other resources can help, but relieving the pressure on the border is an essential goal of any credible border security initiative. Congressman Pearce is working on legislation designed to secure the border through a common sense guest worker program.

Congressman Pearce strongly opposes amnesty - and he believes that any bill establishing a guest worker program should prohibit guest workers from obtaining permanent status or citizenship unless they return to their country of origin and wait alongside the thousands of others who have applied for a "green card."

A common sense guest worker program should include provisions requiring participating immigrants to pass a background check and regularly report their whereabouts and job status to federal authorities. Through the use of advanced technology like biometrics, this approach could establish a safe, legal, and orderly process for immigrants and employers, while enabling our Border Patrol agents to focus squarely upon capturing the drug traffickers, human smugglers, violent gangs, and terrorists who threaten our safety.



Congressman Pearce discusses border issues with constituents in Deming along with two prominent members of the House Homeland Security Committee — U.S. Reps. Sheila Jackson Lee and Mike Rogers.

Congressman Pearce needs your input.

Congressman Pearce wants to hear from you—particularly if you were unable to attend one of his immigration listening tour community meetings during August. Fill out and mail in the attached card, or visit www.pearce.house.gov and complete the survey online. You may also submit additional comments to an e-mail address that Congressman Pearce created specifically for this issue, Pearce.Comments@mail.house.gov.

Let Congressman Pearce Hear from You.

Would you support a guest worker program that prohibits amnesty, utilizes fingerprint and retina scan technology to identify guest workers, and requires guest workers to pass a background check?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you believe that such a guest worker program would make America safer?

☐ Yes ☐ No

What do you think Congress needs to do to solve the border crisis?

Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please indicate the issues of greatest concern to you:

☐ Immigration ☐ The War on Terror

☐ Gas Prices ☐ Taxes

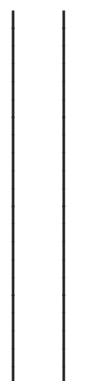
☐ Social Security ☐ Healthcare

☐ Other _____

“The time for action is now. Regardless of whether government officials in Washington, D.C. wish to address the border crisis, I will not rest until they do.”

— Congressman Steve Pearce

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Place
37¢
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Here



Office of Congressman Steve Pearce

Dear Friend,

New Mexico's border with Mexico stretches for 180 miles. Only 20 miles contain the piped vehicular barrier pictured on the front of this newsletter. The rest contains flimsy barbed wire fence—or no barrier at all.

Recently, I brought the House Homeland Security Committee to Southern New Mexico to show them the vulnerability of our border. We traveled along the border, listening to the ranchers and residents who contend daily with the failure of our federal government to secure our border.

Also in August, I traveled throughout our district to hear your views regarding the border crisis. During 17 community meetings, constituents repeatedly expressed support for a common sense guest worker program, so long as it prohibits amnesty and utilizes fingerprint and retina scan technology to identify guest workers while requiring them to pass a background check.

In Washington, I am now working on legislation to secure the border and implement these recommendations.

Sincerely,

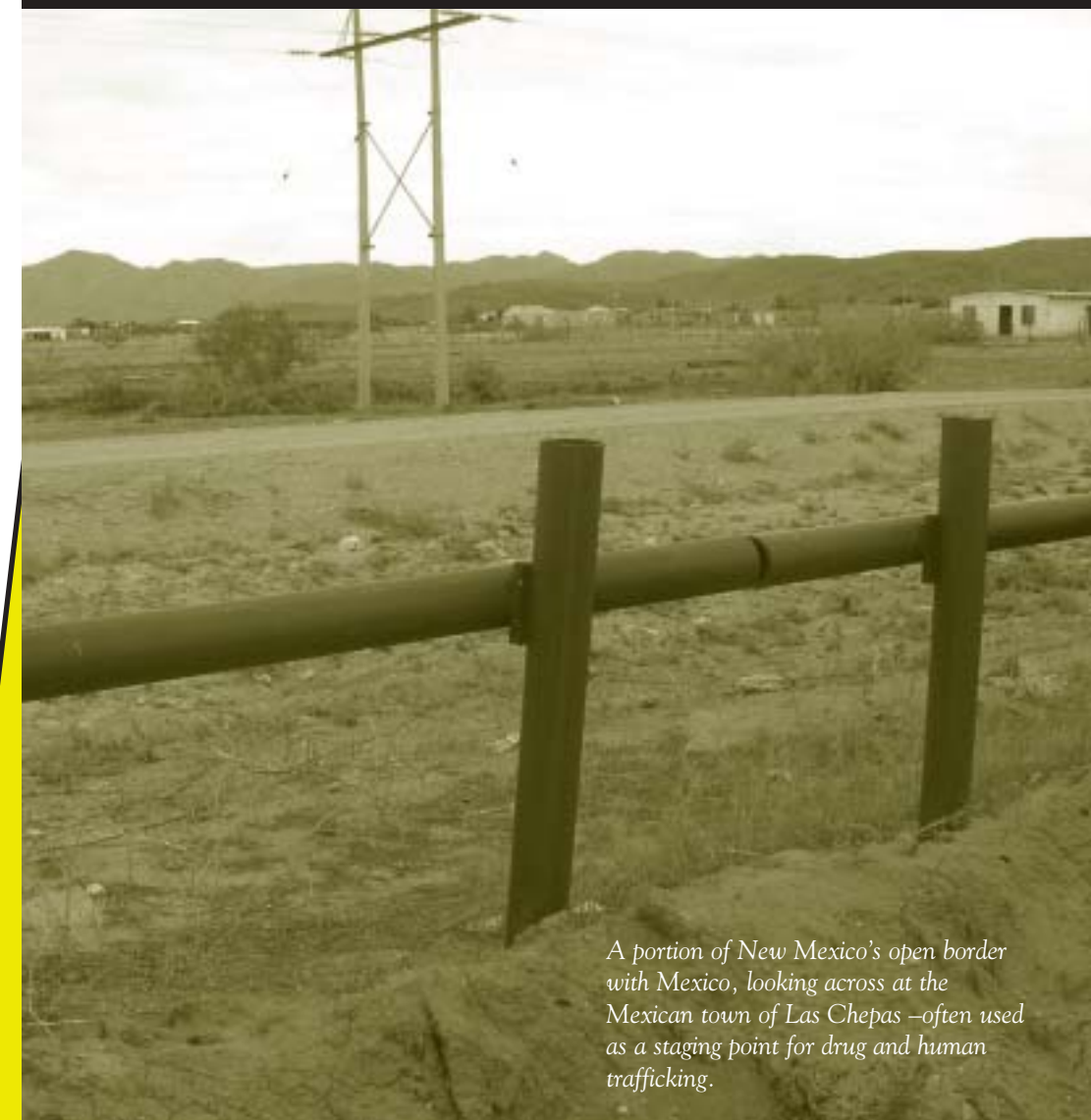
Steven Pearce

Congressman Steve Pearce

P.S. I need your input. Please see inside for details on how you can send me your views on the border crisis.

The Border Crisis:

A report from Congressman Steve Pearce



A portion of New Mexico's open border with Mexico, looking across at the Mexican town of Las Chepas—often used as a staging point for drug and human trafficking.

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